



HR0985

LRB099 20119 MST 44550 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Vanessa
4 Ann Rich of Chicago, who passed away on December 27, 2015 at
5 the age of 64; and

6 WHEREAS, Vanessa Rich served as the City of Chicago Deputy
7 Commissioner for the Department of Family and Support Services;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Vanessa Rich held a number of positions throughout
10 her career, including Early Childhood Teacher and Tester, Rock
11 Island School District and Bi-State Commission, Rock Island,
12 1969 to 1970; President and Master Trainer, Center Circle, Inc.
13 Training and Consulting Company, 1985 to 2015; Dean Adult
14 Learning Skills Program, Wright Community College, City
15 Colleges of Chicago, Chicago, 1987 to 1996; Director Head Start
16 Region V Training Contract CSR, Chicago, 1980s; Director I
17 Executive Director, West Central Illinois Legal
18 Assistance/HOPE Head Start, Galesburg, 1970 to 1987; and
19 College Instructor, Workshop Facilitator, and Public Speaker,
20 1970 to 2015; and

21 WHEREAS, Vanessa Rich severed in numerous notable roles,
22 including 1977 Department of Health Education and Welfare

1 Policy Caucus Member; 1979 appointment by the Carter
2 Administration - International Year of the Child Committee
3 Member; Chicago Association for Education of Young Children
4 Board Member - Head Start Representative; Illinois Association
5 for Education of Young Children Board of Directors - Head Start
6 representative; Children's Defense Fund Advisory Board;
7 National Head Start Academy Instructor; National Head Start
8 Parent Affiliate Organizing Committee (1974); Board Member,
9 Illinois Head Start Association, Friends Association,
10 Directors Association; Board Member, Region V Association;
11 past Chairwoman, Illinois Director Association; Keynote
12 Speaker, National Parent Association; Illinois Early Learning
13 Council (Governor Appointee); Member and Chairwoman, Clinton
14 Crime Commission Summit; NHSA Strategic Planning Committee;
15 Member, NHSA Champions of Change Illinois Race to the Top Ad
16 Hoc Planning Committee; Member, NHSA Government Affairs
17 Committee; Member, NHSA Performance Standards Committee;
18 convened and sponsored the Chicago Head Start Policy Project;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Vanessa Rich received many accolades during her
21 life, including Region V Outstanding Head Start Director, the
22 City College of Chicago Women of the Year Award, the Illinois
23 Head Start Association Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian
24 Award, and the Illinois Head Start Association Silver
25 Anniversary Service Award; and

1 WHEREAS, Vanessa Rich was the beloved mother of Seth Justin
2 Rich (Veronica) and Vyctoria Jamie Kranz (Gregory); the loving
3 sister of Richard Hudson (Aloyce), Ronald Hudson (Ree), and
4 Crystal Hudson-Jones (Keith); the proud grandmother of Alecia,
5 Brittney, Maritza, James, Zachary, Seth Xavier, Isaiah, and one
6 great-grandchild, Edwin; the aunt to many nieces and nephews;
7 and friend to all; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
10 mourn the passing of Vanessa Ann Rich, and extend our sincere
11 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
12 her; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of Vanessa Rich as an expression of our
15 deepest sympathy.